

Message Text

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00337 230639 Z

12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 H-02 PA-03 PRS-01

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R 221430 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1947

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0337

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR SREF MZ MI

SUBJ: ARTICLE ON JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES REFUGEES

REF: A) LOURENCO MARQUES 155; B) LOURENCO MARQUES 261

1. NOTICIAS DA BEIRA, MOZAMBIQUE PAPER CONTROLLED BY JORGE JARDIM, RAN TWO- PART FEATURE ARTICLE ON MAY 17-18 CONCERNING JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES REFUGEES IN ANGONIA REGION OF TETE. THOUGH ARTICLE REFERS TO ORIGIN OF REGUGEES ONLY AS " VARIOUS AFRICAN COUNTRIES," THIS IS FIRST TIME THAT PRESENCE OF MALAWIAN JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES IN MOZAMBIQUE HAS BEEN PUBLICLY MENTIONED AT ALL. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, THERE MORE THAN 17,000 IN ANGONIA REGION OF TETE, AND NUMBER GROWING. PRINCIPAL CENTER IS STATED TO BE MALANGUENE (PRESEMABLY FORTE MALANGUENE ON MALAWI BORDER), WHERE 13,000 WITNESSES ARE BUILDING A " LITTLE CITY" WITH ROADS, HOUSES, HOSPITAL (40 BIRTHS A DAY), ETC. OTHER CENTERS ARE CALOMUE (PRESUMABLY CALOMUE DE BAIXO, JUST WEST OF BRAGANCA ON MALAWI BORDER) WITH 2,500 WITNESSES, AND DOMOE (A. K. A. COMANDANTE BRITO, ABOUT 15
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KMS. FROM MALAWI BORDER). ARTICLE INCLUDES LENGTHY HISTORY OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES IN AMERICA AND EUROPE, AND HUMAN INTEREST MATERIAL ON THEIR BUILDING NEW HOMES IN MOZAMBIQUE, BUT NEVER SAYS WHERE THEY CAME FROM OR WHY.

2. COMMENT: MOZAMBIQUE STILL SEEMS ANXIOUS AVOID UNDULY
EMBARRASSING MALAWI GOVERNMENT OVER REFUGEE SITUATION. BUT
ARTICLE GIVES NO INDICATION REPORTED PULLBACK OF REFUGEES
(REF B) BEING IMPLEMENTED-- INDEED, IMPRESSION IS THAT REFUGEES
ARE SETTLING DOWN MORE OR LESS PERMANENTLY IN PRESENT LOCATIONS.

VAN OSS

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